MATWATCH

NOV. 21-27

213 PINE HILLS AVE. AUBURN,AL. 36830 . (205)826-7522

VOL. 1, NO. 22

STEVE'S SIDELIGHTS
By STEVE BEVERLY
MATWATCH Editor

WHAT NOW, WORLD CLASS?

From all the way to Australia this past week, I'm surprised at the number of callers who are asking---with the Jerry Jarrett majority purchase---"what's going to happen to World Class?"

Of course, I have no crystal ball but, judging from the recent evolution of promotional mergers in pro wrestling, several things appear likely:

---If we are to believe insiders, KERRY VON ERICH will end up with the unified AWA/World Class titles at the Dec. 13 SUPER CLASH III.

---Reportedly, Jarrett wants to focus his two promotions around VON ERICH as the "world" champion.

---The Texas vs. Tennessee feud already appears to be winding down after the Oct. 11 match in Dallas in which the Texas "faces" saved Jeff Jarrett from an attack of the Samoan Swat Team.

---Both the Memphis and World Class organizations will likely be folded into one merged group, perhaps with a new name to promote a refurbished image.

Those are the short-term predictions. Beyond that, I see two major changes looming on the horizon which, if enacted, would place Jarrett in the role of becoming the distant but likely respectable #3 promoter in the U.S.

First, with some additional recent talent defections, Verne Gagne is basically left with Wahoo McDaniel, Manny Fernandez, Ray Stevens and the Paul Diamond-Pat Tanaka combo as a talent base, along with son Greg. And we've been told the Bad Company duo's tie is tenuous.

Plus, not that I want to bring bad tidings at the holiday season, I will believe in modern miracles if SUPER CLASH III is anything but a pay-per-view financial disaster. I simply don't see success written anywhere in the program. Accordingly, it is within the realistic realm that Gagne could take his losses and wave goodbye to the business after SCIII. Don't bet on that because respected insiders have counted Verne out for 2 years.

If that occurs, the likelihood of Jarrett assuming the ESPN time slot is a much stronger possibility, though with ESPN's erratic scheduling of the AWA, that may not be as big a plus as one might surmise.

Second, could be a reestablishing of ties with the NWA. If we are to believe some of the plans being considered by Ted Turner's people, the new NWA will not slam the door on exchange agreements with outside promotions. As long as Jim Crockett still has a major say in matters, this probably won't occur, but it is my feeling that it could only be good for the sport, the fans and TBS ratings to bring in outside talent for special shows and monthly appearances on the SuperStations. It lends an air of freshness to the promotion and its respective programs and, instead of creating ego and political problems many insiders believe (and are correct in assuming) exclusively happen, it would help both organizations.

Should these two scenarios develop, I can't see anything but positive days ahead for Jarrett; however, I do not see a separate World Class and CWA promotion continuing indefinitely. Realistically, there have never been close ties between the two and in this day of national cable and syndication, the idea of even trying to develop a state feud was foolish because the rest of the country (an audience necessary to build syndication ratings for ad revenue) simply doesn't care.

I'll say one thing for Jarrett. His early policy that you have to work to be paid is a good one. The first full week after Jarrett took over, Kevin Von Erich didn't draw a paycheck. I'm told that on the Nov. 11 Dallas card, he must have gotten the message: insiders say Kevin worked harder than he had the last two years. Funny, how the pocketbook has a way of making people perform in mysterious ways.

RATINGS RAP
(Week Ending October 23)

	Rating	Stations	Pct./U.S.
WWF	9.4	257	97%
NWA	5.4	152	90%

(Ratings for the All-Pro Network were again unavailable.)

LARS ANDERSON, LIA MAIVIA JAILED FOR ALLEGED EXTORTION; BOTH ACCUSED OF PHYSICAL THREATS ON HONOLULU PROMOTER

HONOLULU - Hawaiian authorities and federal agents have arrested and charged former wrestler Larry Heiniemi (Lars Anderson), 49, Hawaiian promoter Lia Maivia, 53, and a business partner, Ati So'o, on charges of alleged extortion from an independent wrestling promoter.

FBI agent Joseph F. Holtslag said the three demanded a $5,000 "tribute" from promoter John R. Wakayama in order for Wakayama to stage a show at Blaisdell Arena.

Holtslag also indicated Wakayama was threatened with violence against him and his two children. The FBI, according to federal attorney Les Osborne, taped phone and in-person conversations between Wakayama and Maivia and Anderson which allegedly link the trio to the extortion plot.

At a meeting videotaped at Wakayama's office, Mrs. Maivia allegedly said "So'o is the kind of person who goes 'bang, bang' and simulated a shooting gesture.

Osborne said Wakayama paid Maivia and Anderson $1,800 in cash provided by the FBI and promised to pay $3,200 the next day.

Both Maivia and Anderson were arrested after leaving Wakayama's office and So'o was later picked up at his home.

In an affidavit, Maivia was quoted as saying such a payment was standard practice for rival promoters on the islands. If convicted, the three would face maximum prison terms of 20 years.

Heiniemi received his first major American push in 1966-67 when he teamed as Gene Anderson's brother Lars in a year-long feud with Enrique & Ramon Torres.

---*** C O M I N G S & G O I N G S ***---

---Soldad Ustinov & Teijho Khan have left the AWA and Medusa Miceli reportedly has handed in notice after the pay-per-boo card.

---Verne Gagne has insisted to the FNN/SCORE people that the Top Guns will make the SCIII show, despite their departure. However, a trusted source told me Brad Armstrong & Tim Horner had been penciled in to team with Wendi Richter vs. Medusa & Bad Company. I'm told Brad & Tom Prichard now may make the show.

---Joe Pedicino & Boni Blackstone in Charlotte this past Wednesday to tape the first 3 weeks of Nelson Royal's new ATLANTIC COAST WRESTLING. Before the issue ends, I hope to have some results.

---I had a very brief but cordial conversation with new NWA president Jack Petrik of TBS last week. Our conversation was predominantly private but Petrik told me TBS is "looking at all aspects" of the NWA product but not to expect any "instant sweeping revolutions." And that's probably good, despite the impatience of many fans because the best moves in TV and entertainment are made subtly and deliberately.

---There is increasing talk buzzing that Gordon Solie may indeed be brought back for at least one show in the NWA package. I haven't spoken to Gordon about that (couldn't reach him twice) but I'd again make the suggestion of putting Solie on the morning show on TBS and perhaps one of the syndicated offerings. If they want to pair him up, Eddie Gilbert sounds like a good choice to me. What do you think?

---Tony Schiavone's situation may indeed be a different one. Tony, who has not been offered a firm TBS contract yet at deadline, has a wife and five children he is reluctant to uproot from Charlotte to Atlanta. Reportedly, UNC-Charlotte has discussed a post in its sports information department with Schiavone.

---Percy Pringle is now working for DENNIS BRENT at PRO WRESTLING DIGEST.

---This Saturday night's MAIN EVENT on NBC includes Hogan vs. Bossman and Savage vs. Andre.

---Ticket sales have been reported very slow again for SURVIVOR SERIES III so you can bet a ton of freebies will be handed out to pad that crowd.

---Expect Titan to claim a 6-8% buy-rate for this PPV but don't believe it. I'm betting this will be their lowest subscriber rate yet.

---I may have the STARRCADE card before the issue ends (it wasn't completely final when I talked to Petrik) but you can wipe out chances for a FLAIR-STING match. It appears they're hanging with FLAIR-LUGER again, for reasons beyond me. If they do, Ric needs to get an outright pinfall, for a change, and end it. Does that kill Lex? Maybe as a world title contender but nothing more. Besides, few people believe Luger can bear the NWA belt and draw, so what have you lost by pinning him?

---I can't print what some of you said when you read that Cornette & Dangerously were left off a number of the recent NWA tour cities. But the consensus was that Mr. Dillon, indeed, should have been left off, if anyone.

---Angelo Savoldi was scheduled in to observe the CWF tapings in Montgomery Saturday night but I was told definitely not to read into that any indication of a business dealing. Supposedly, Savoldi was scouting CWF's production techniques.

---Some of the MATWATCH TV AWARDS ballots have come in early and I will say there are a few surprises. Remember, you can still vote on events through Nov. 30 and the ballots must be in by Dec. 10.

---Rumors this week that Tommy Rich is NWA-bound after his Japan stint appear unfounded.

---I am yet to see the BRUISER BRODY retrospective from FNN/SCORE but I've had a lot of complaints about it. From what I've been told, it was more like a program-length commercial to buy the video tape. One caller said, "It reminded me of NEW GENERATION HAIR CARE on cable late Sunday nights."

---I have learned how much people respect JOE PEDICINO from those calls because a recurring question has been, "How could Joe have become involved in a show like that?" (apparently none of the match finishes were shown as a teaser to buy the video). I'm sure Joe wanted to be part of the project because, potentially, the money from the video will go to Brody's widow, Barbara Goodish. But some callers were so angered at the program, they said they don't intend to buy the video.

---In the Are You Surprised? category: young Dustin Rhodes is getting an accelerated promotion to the NWA in December, probably teaming with the returning Kendall Windham. Yeah, boy.

---Finally, I received a call from Pam Irving of Melbourne, Australia, this week, who says the folks Down Under have only recently seen last year's SATURDAY NIGHT MAIN EVENTs. Pam says she hopes Ted Turner will cut a deal to syndicate NWA shows on one of the Aussie networks.

---The NWA drew $15,000 in Johnstown, PA, Nov. 10 and $34,500 in Pittsburgh Nov. 11.

---But in Raleigh last Wednesday, only 200 fans showed for what MATWATCHer Mike Gunter calls "the worst show probably ever in Raleigh." The Road Warriors beat the Midnight Express in 4 minutes of the main event. The Warriors are said to be quite unhappy because they are still owed substantial sums in back pay.

---Ray Candy & Grizzly Boone both turned up on TBS' Saturday a.m. show, so Turner must be using some of the out-of-work guys from Jerry Blackwell's Southern promotion during his hiatus. I'm still doubtful if Blackwell can restart in late December with any momentum.

(Continued on Page 3)

MERV GRIFFIN, BRUNO, CBS TO JUMP INTO RING TOGETHER????

At least one wrestling bulletin and two inside sources say stories are rampant that Merv Griffin is quietly planning to finance a new promotion which would be headed by Bruno Sammartino.

Reports further indicate that CBS has been in discussions to carry matches of a Griffin promotion. Sources at Griffin Enterprises in Los Angeles would neither confirm nor deny the story and a CBS spokesman said he has no knowledge of any talks.

A program director of a CBS affiliate in the Top-35 markets, who asked not to be named, says he doubts if his network will be involved but adds it is not inconceivable. "You're talking about the number three network now which would do most anything to attract audiences," the program exec said. "Plus, you'd be talking about one of the most successful program packagers in this business with a man who has openly spoken out against Vince McMahon's brand of wrestling. And Merv has more than $300 million, so he could certainly finance it. So it's not incomprehensible."

Maybe Merv could bring back Art Fleming of JEOPARDY fame to call the play-by-play and right before a juice job, Merv could go, "Ooooo....we'll be right back."

PINFALL PROFILE: I'M THANKFUL...

A moment or two to sit back and share the spirit of our beloved holiday this week:

---I'm thankful for Ted Turner for giving the NWA hope to turn around; here's hoping it's the direction of the Atlanta Hawks, not the Braves!

---I'm thankful for new faces like Paul E. Dangerously, the Samoan Swat Team, The D.I. and one who should still be around: Shane Douglas.

---I'm thankful for the patience and loyalty of Ric Flair, who didn't (or at least not yet) take the easy road of jumping to the WWF.

---I'm thankful for Jesse Ventura, who at least doesn't take the WWF circus any more seriously than it really is.

---I'm thankful for Bill Watts, whom I wish was back in business.

---I'm thankful friends we've made in the last year have remained so, such as Joe Pedicino, Charlie Platt, David Woods, Dave Meltzer, Gordon Solie and the ever-present Paul E.

---I'm thankful Vince didn't take over everything this summer, lest we be stuck with a monopoly in Titanland.

---I'm thankful for small promoters who have been able to stick it out in tough competitive and economic times and still provide work for the young fellows who need seasoning.

---I'm thankful that on a bad day after work, I can pop in a UWF tape from 1986 and listen to those classic Jim Ross showclosers. How I hope TBS gives us more of those!

---I'm thankful MATWATCH has brought me a world of new unseen friends who have taken us to heart and given us much encouragement.

---I'm thankful The Midnight Rider was stillborn.

---I'm thankful cable TV and satellites bring us closer to the sport we love so much.

---I'm thankful no one has given Robert Gibson his own talk show.

---I'm thankful no one has given Dusty Rhodes an exercise program.

---I'm thankful every time I get a Japanese wrestling tape in the mail and the hours of enjoyment it brings are immeasurable.

---I'm thankful every time I see the creativity of an Eddie Gilbert have a chance to display itself. Here's hoping its niche will eventually be found.

---I'm thankful for the comedic genius of Jim Cornette. And here's asking why nobody thought of having a CORNETTE FOR PRESIDENT campaign?

---I'm thankful that in 1988, I've seen: Ric Flair do a job, Joe Pedicino return live TV wrestling to Atlanta, THE ROAD TO BIRMINGHAM (ever how bumpy it was) and thousands of people who love wrestling as much as I---all in person.

---And finally, I'm thankful Rebecca and I survived a potentially-fatal accident and somehow every week, I can come up with a simple creative effort that hopefully informs and entertains each of you. God bless you on this holiday weekend and my sincerest hope is that you are sharing it with loved ones.

COMINGS & GOINGS!!! (Continued)

---The STARRCADE card still had not been finalized as of last Friday. MATWATCH has learned a tense session over the lineup last Monday ended with one key principal walking out of the meeting. Details remain sketchy...but the critical portion is TBS is left with only five Saturdays to promote the Dec. 26 PPV and, unless some fast editing takes place, even fewer on the syndicated shows.

---Nelson Royal's premiere of ATLANTIC COAST WRESTLING was said to be "super hot." Jimmy Garvin & Precious showed up, so he and she are now NWA history. The M.O.D. Squad, Buddy Landell and The Rock & Roll Express are among the others who appeared for the 3-show tapings.

---Joe Pedicino has altered his Saturday night SUPERSTARS lineup on WVEU in Atlanta. The new sked: 8, WWF Challenge; 9, PWTW; 9:30 Learning the Ropes; 10, World Class; 11, Southern; 12, Memphis; 1, FLAIR; 1:15, CWF; 2:15, WWC.

---According to a column in the Jackson (Ms.) Clarion-Ledger, Missy Hyatt is along on most of the NWA trips, selling pictures of herself outside the matches.

---And yet another NWA defection: The Sheepherders, on the eve of winning the U.S. Tag Team Championship tournament (or so we'd been led to believe), have signed with the WWF. They'll be used as faces and, boy, will I miss those weekly interviews with Jim Ross. I still think Butch Miller could pass for a clone of Boris Malenko with that haircut and those expressions.

---Finally, I hate to make this the David Crockett Whipping Post of the week but his performance on TBS the last two weeks has been unprintable. I don't know if I've seen any announcer kill the effect of a heel interview as does David.

CABLE RATINGS RAP

(Week Ending 11/16)

	Rating	Share
WCW (TBS p.m.)	2.8	5.2
WWF Prime Time (USA)	2.5	3.7
Ch'ship Wrstlg (TBS am)	1.4	4.3

(ANALYSIS: The TBS Saturday night national rating built from a 2.2 at 6:05 to a 3.2 at 7:30, continuing an upward trend. The WWF score continues to trend downward and in USA's universe, ABC's WAR & REMEMBRANCE drew less of an audience opposite than its regular series. No NWA MAIN EVENT rating was available.)

TV TEMPO (Week Ending Nov. 20)

RATINGS: PINFALL! - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor. PLUS - Midscale rating.

(MEMPHIS) - Sid Vicious wins handicap squash; Cactus Jack Foley/Gary Young d. Grim Reapers; Bill Dundee/Todd Morton d. J.D. Wolfe/Doug Brown; Mike Miller & RPMs d. Brian Lee/Scott Steiner/Alan Reynolds; DEBUT: Beauty & the Beast (Terrence Garvin Jr. & Mark Goleen) say they'll only wrestle on a "pink mat." ANGLE: RPMs accuse Morton of hiding behind Dundee, so they chloroform Dundee, then Morton and paint Todd's entire body yellow. POWERSLAM-PLUS.

(NWC) - Most U.S. markets aired a rerun this week.

(AWA) - With the erratic ESPN sked, we will begin listing the ESPN results from Mondays at 4 beginning next week until AWA returns to a Friday or Saturday slot.

(WWF) - [SPOTLIGHT]: Blue Blazer d. Barry Horowitz; Rockers-Rougeaus double DQ; Young Stallions d. Mike Sharpe/Steve Lombardi; Other winners: Ted DiBiase, Akeem Gang. BRO. LOVE w. Jake Roberts. RECAP: Jake-Andre SNME aftermath. RESTHOLD.
[CHALLENGE]: Jim Duggan d. Nikolai Volkoff; Hercules Hernandez d. Max McGyver; Other winners: Bad News Brown, Tito Santana, Bobba Bossman, Jake Roberts. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[SUPERSTARS]: Brutus Beefcake wins DQ over Honky Tonk Man when Ron Bass runs in and leads to brawl between both men's SURVIVOR teams; Rockers d. Gene Ligon/George South; Other winners: Santana, Hart Foundation, Red Rooster, DiBiase. BRO. LOVE w. Hogan/Savage. RESTHOLD.

(W. CLASS) - Solomon Grundy d. Bob Bradley; Kevin Von Erich-Super Black Ninja recap; Bill Irwin d. Black Bart; Eric Embry d. Steve Casey. RESTHOLD.

(PWTW) - SCW, Abdullah the Butcher d. Marc Allen; FLAIR, Sue Sexton d. Sandi Partlow; Queen Kong d. Athena & The Viking Princess; MWC, Batten Twins d. Dan Kroffat/Bobby Jaggers; MEMPHIS, Phil Hickerson/Young/Foley draw with Brian Lee/Scott Steiner/Brickhouse Brown; PORTLAND, Rex King draw with Art Barr; CWF, Tim Horner DQ over Masa Chono; WCCW, SST win back W. Class tag belts in handicap cage match vs. Michael Hayes; MAT CLASSIC: Tony Morelli d. Andre Poffo; INTERVIEWS: Joe Pedicino w. Sandi Partlow, Koko B. Ware. MARS WRESTLER OF WEEK: Horner. DRAW-PLUS...would have been POWERSLAM but too much FLAIR and contestants in a Japan match were not identified.

(CWF) - Bullet Bob & Bullet Brad win DQ over Tony Anthony/Jerry Stubbs when Dutch Mantel (under mask) choloroforms Bullet before Scott Armstrong makes save; Super Dave (Shawn) Baxter d. Randy Hogan; Willie B. Hert d. Gene Miller; Johnny & Davey Rich d. J.D. Wolfe/The Count; Tom Prichard d. B.A. Burton; Lee Peek wins DQ over Mark Pyle when Alan Martin interferes and wild 8-man melee erupts. ANGLES: Danny Davis hides under ring and attacks Ken Wayne to start show-opening brawl; Bob Armstrong offers to remove mask to get 6-man tag. REPLAY: Grappler II/Prichard angle (already dead). POWERSLAM.

(LTR) - Ellen (Nicole Stoffman) opts to dump her friend to run with a "cool" group. Robert (Lyle Alzado) forbids her to attend a party on a school night but she goes anyway while he's at the wrestling arena. After Ellen comes home drunk, Robert, Ron Simmons and two friends enter into a therapy session to "consume our hostilities." Ellen admits to Robert she was wrong and he says he's glad because it'll make it less painful to ground her. MATCHES: MANIAC d. SIMMONS but in return match, SIMMONS wins. RESTHOLD....another recycled plot but Simmons wasn't bad.

(SCW) - Ranger Ross/Joey Maggs d. Steve Lawler/Dino Minelli when Sir Samuel Kent interferes; Nick Busich d. Steve Bennett; John Michaels wins reverse decision over Chic Donovan when ref discovers Donovan with chain; Mr. Wrestling II d. The Executioner; Ray Candy & The Big Black Stud ends in 10-man brawl. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(NWA/SYND.) - [WORLD WIDE]: U.S. TAG TOURNAMENT: Sheepherders d. Ron Simmons/Eddie Gilbert when Luke Williams (the illegal man) jumps Simmons from top rope as Simmons has Butch Miller pinned; TAPE: Road Warriors' world tag team title victory; Other winners: Russian Assassins, Bam Bam Bigelow, Original Midnight Express. STRAIGHT TALK: Magnum w. Paul E. Dangerously & D.M.E. DRAW.
[NWA PRO]: TAPE: Warriors' title win, plus Midnights-Midnights TBS angle; Rick Steiner d. Curtis Thompson; Other winners: Koloffs, Barry Windham, D.M.E.
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER: Cornette challenges Paul E. RESTHOLD.

(NWA/TBS) - [P.M.]: TAPE: Varsity Club turns on Rick Steiner...during U.S. TAG TOURNAMENT match, Steiner trips up Mike Rotunda to give Tommy Rogers (Fantastics) the win over Rotunda & Steve Williams. Kevin Sullivan and his new V.C. batter Steiner who later vows revenge; New Varsity Club d. Randy Hogan/Italian Stallion; Abdullah the Butcher d. Eddie Sweat; Other winners: Bam Bam, Fantastics, Eddie Gilbert, Sting & Luger, Simmons, RAs, O.M.E., Windham. ANGLE: Jim Crockett announces the Dusty-Animal match on CLASH IV Dec. 7 will determine fate of 6-man tag belts. RESTHOLD...the Steiner bit was good but the rest of the show was back to its old squash/interview tricks.
[A.M.]: Road Warrior Hawk d. Keith Steinborn/Tony Suber in handicap match; DEBUT: The Commandos (Ray Candy/Grizzly Boone) d. Sweat/George South; Other winners: Simmons, Al Perez/Larry Zbyszko, Gilbert, Sheepherders. BOMB.
MAIN EVENT: REPLAY: O.M.E. attack on Midnights; Kevin Sullivan d. Italian Stallion (rerun); Nikita Koloff DQ over Al Perez (how many times are we going to have to watch this???); U.S. TOURNEY: Sheepherders d. Gilbert/Simmons.

LINES OF THE WEEK - 1. Jim Ross, TBS: "Maybe he (Dangerously) used to work for Maytag, because he's a real agitator." 2. Steiner, TBS, on hearing Sullivan's not finished abusing him: "Not finished? What else is he gonna do to me? 3. Bobby Jaggers, NWC: "St. James, you're as dumb as el referio." 4. Jesse Ventura, WWF, on Harley Race: "Once a dictator, always a dictator. A king never abdicates without trying to reclaim the throne." 5. Dangerously, NWA PRO: "Cornette, you're nothing but a stinking sequel!" 6. Pedicino, PWTW, to Patrick Schaefer: "Maybe you can handle Queen Kong...you two make quite a pair." 7. Sir Samuel Kent, SCW: "Steve Lawler went down and spit in the devil's face and the devil bowed." 8. Rhubarb Jones, when Candy/Stud brawl spilled into parking lot: "DON'T TOUCH MY TRUCK!" 9. Jones, on Busich bringing candle to ring: "Maybe it's Gorbacev's birthday." 10. Dusty Rhodes, NWA PRO: "There ain't a steroid in this body, baby." 11. Cornette, NWA PRO: "Paul E., I hope you look good in red, because that's what you're gonna be covered in when we get through with you." 12. Ross, TBS: "I can smell every word they (Sheepherders) say." 13. Bullet, CWF: "These two are blood of my blood and if you want this hood bad enough, I'll pull it off."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Dennis Condrey, TBS: "Jim, your mama said she wanted '2 guys for my boy to manage.' She wanted 2 guys but it wasn't for you to manage." 2. Tony Schiavone, TBS, on double splash of Commandos: "If David Crockett were here, he'd still be screaming."

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. Jones, SCW, calling Kent "The Sultan of Sleaze." 2. Ross, TBS, calling Abdullah "The One-Man Population Explosion."

GAS-X QUOTE OF THE WEEK - Butch Miller, TBS: "You can wait and go to the bathroom later, Cousin Luke."

BEST PICTURES - 1. SCW, closeup of Black Stud choking Ray Candy; 2. TBS, Steiner's expression after Varsity Club ends attack; 3. WWF, overhead shot of 10-man brawl.

BLOOPER AWARD - Steve Williams, TBS, for calling Steiner STEEN-er.

BOO AWARD - 1. LTR, for having Simmons lose to the Maniac; 2. David Crockett, TBS, for grinning through all but one of the heel interviews Saturday.

PARTING BLOWS

Steiner's TBS interview Sat. night would have been far more effective with anyone but David....Someone has suggested the importation of Candy, Boone and Abdullah is so we media types won't write about how fat Dusty is....I think the world of Magnum T.A. But the chemistry really wasn't there with Schiavone Saturday a.m. Now if they wanted to pair up Gordon Solie with Magnum, they may have something.

NWA MAIN EVENT was on the WCW set so at least we didn't have to see that blue-vomit backdrop but that show still needs to be back in the arena....CWF returned to a set backdrop away from the ring after so many ringside run-ins....Lots of changes in announced cards from TV lineups in CWF leaving fans confused....I suppose The Cholesterol Commandos (Candy & Boone) will fill the departing Sheeps' heel slot if they stay.

FNN NOTES: Dec. 3 from 9-10:30 (ET), FNN/SCORE will have a SUPER CLASH III preview and, hopefully, a 60-min. phone-in show. But only Brandi Mae & David McLean are scheduled if they can't get a male wrestler, they'll likely air a POWW show instead....all the wrestling slots on FNN until further notice will be MEMPHIS. Shows are scheduled this Saturday at 11, Dec. 2 and 9 at 9 p.m. and Christmas Eve at a time to be announced....the SCIII Fat Boys Battle Royal has been scrubbed. Verne still insists Top Guns and Ronnie Garvin will make the show, though.

Gonna miss Rick Stuart on SCW. He is one of the best of the small promotion announcers....Manny Fernandez arrested for assault & battery Nov. 11 in Hickory, N.C. Manny allegedly went after a taunting fan, Donald Wendt, kicked him in the face three times and beat him closed fists, according to the warrant. Larry Chapman, who owns Yesterday's a club where the card was held, says he's hosted his last wrestling match.

WAKA/Montgomery has reverted to the hour PWTW, which we will now review....finally, MATWATCHer Mike Gendelman is helping coordinate a cable subscribers' protest rally at the Long Island Cablevision office in Woodbury NY Saturday morning. Sports fans in the area were angered when the system dumped the Madison Square Garden network. We endorse their efforts and wish them well. For more info, call Mike at (516) 933-7484. Have a great Turkey Day and God Bless!!! FSB

MATWATCH SHOPPERS NETWORK

Photos for Sale!
For a complete list, send a S.A.S.E. to:
Steve Bryant
423 Sherwood Dr.
Tullahoma, TN
37388

MATWATCH SUBSCRIPTION ORDERS

MATWATCH is a great way to keep up with breaking stories and the week's TV wrestling shows. Subscriptions are $5 for 8 (eight) issues and $26 for one year in the U.S. & Canada. Overseas airmail rates are $7 per (six) 6-issue order and $50 for one year.

Gift subscriptions add 3 free issues (through Dec. 25) to your subscription for every 6-issue order you give. After Dec. 25, the offer extends your order by 2 issues.

Check or money order to: STEVE BEVERLY, 213 PINE HILLS AVE., AUBURN AL 36830.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

IF GIFT ORDER, GIFT TO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

GIFT FROM _____

MATWATCH '88: THE ANNUAL BEYOND

Our yearbook with the silliest title in the history of wrestling journalism is available at $4.50 through Dec. 10 with the cost jumping to $5.50 after Dec. 10. Plus, if you win our MATWATCH TV AWARDS competition, you'll win 4 free issues of MATWATCH in 1989. If you would like to give the ANNUAL as a gift, you'll receive three free issues of MATWATCH added to your subscription.

Check or money order to: STEVE BEVERLY, 213 PINE HILLS AVE., AUBURN AL 36830.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

GIFT TO _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

GIFT FROM _____

PRO WRESTLING DIGEST

The issue for November is out and the cover story is on the turnover in the VARSITY CLUB, plus info on SUPER CLASH III, an interview with Terry Taylor, a full-page pinup of Jerry Lawler, details on the Cotton Bowl World Class/CWA card and yours truly's LINES OF THE MONTH. The single copy is $3 plus a year-long subscription is $24.95.

Orders to: PRO WRESTLING DIGEST, P.O. BOX 6488, DALLAS TX 75379-6488.

MATWATCH
213 PINE HILLS AVE.
AUBURN AL 36830

Michael Gendelman
49 Admiral Lane
Hicksville, NY 11801

FINAL ISSUE OF SUBSCRIPTION